

# Did you know...

One extra bed really can make a difference! If a lot of people helped a little, there would be no shortage of homes right now.

Children with special medical needs are only placed in with foster parents who have been specifically trained to care for them.

Foster Parents receive monthly reimbursement for providing care.

DSHS pays for the day care of foster children for foster parents who work outside of the home.

All medical and dental expenses for foster children are covered by DSHS.

Despite the circumstances these children come into care under, once they are in a stable, safe and loving environment they amazingly adapt, thrive and grow.

Being a foster parent is not a lifetime commitment. We do think that when you see the difference you make in the life of a child... you will see it's not all work and has its own rewards.



## How to contact us:

Foster Care Resource Network  
Visit our website at: [www.fcrn.org](http://www.fcrn.org)

Charleen Morrow  
Recruitment Coordinator  
**1-800-539-9466**

Our county **needs** foster parents...

You can make  
a difference...

One Child  
at a time.

## Pierce County Foster Care

...Our children need **you**



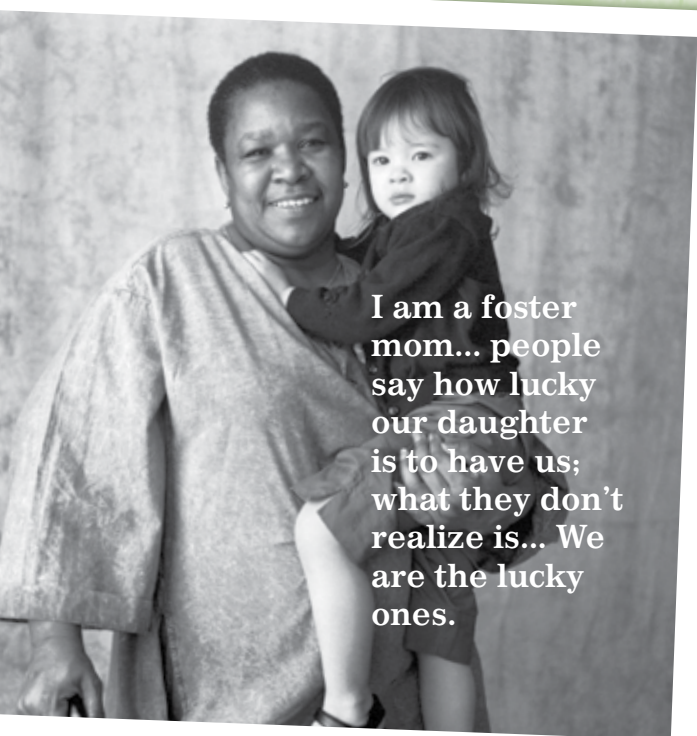
# Pierce County really needs you!

There is a critical shortage of state licensed foster homes in Pierce County.

Currently there are 1,186 children placed in out-of-home care in our county alone.

In Pierce County there are only 326 state licensed foster homes.

Almost all of the foster homes in Pierce County currently have placements, and there are not enough available beds for new children coming into care.



I am a foster mom... people say how lucky our daughter is to have us; what they don't realize is... We are the lucky ones.

## How do children come into foster care?

There are two ways a child can be placed in foster care.

1. Law enforcement officers place children in protective custody for their own safety.
2. The Department of Social & Health Services is directed by a court order to take a child into custody.



## Is there financial assistance?

There is monthly reimbursement for care.

All medical and dental expenses for foster children are covered by DSHS.

Day Care for foster children is paid for by DSHS, for foster parents working outside of the home.

## Who can be a foster parent?

You can be a state licensed foster parent if you are:

- Single, Married or Divorced
- Male or Female
- Unmarried Partners
- Any Race
- A Homeowner or Renter
- Must have a source of income
- Over 21 years old
- Able to pass a criminal background check

## What types of foster care are there?

**Receiving:** Short term or emergency care of a child.

**Respite:** Provide short term care of a child for other foster parents.

**Regular Foster Care:** Any child who is in care for more than 30 days.

## How long does it take to become licensed?

After the state receives your application it takes approximately 2-3 months to complete the licensing process.

## What training is needed to become a foster parent?

In order to become a foster parent, you need to complete required pre-service training. Pre-service training is FREE and will give you the information you need to make an informed decision about foster parenting.

Must have current First Aid/CPR/HIV training. FREE classes provided.

Advanced training is available for licensed foster parents.

## What on going support is available to foster parents?

Support from your foster care licensor  
Support from the child's social worker  
Support from foster parent mentors  
Support from foster parent liaison